

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing an optical fibre ~~according to~~
using a plasma chemical vapour deposition (PCVD) process by carrying out one or more [[a]]
chemical vapour deposition reactions in a substrate tube, ~~which said~~ method comprises the
following steps:

i) supplying one or more ~~doped or undoped~~ glass-forming precursors to the substrate
tube,

ii) supplying a stoichiometric excess of oxygen to the substrate tube,

iii) setting up ~~a reaction~~ the one or more reactions in the substrate tube between ~~the~~
reactants supplied in steps i) and ii) to form a plasma within the substrate tube so as to effect
the deposition of one or more glass layers on ~~the~~ an interior of the substrate tube,

iv) subjecting the substrate tube thus coated in step iii) to a collapsing process so as to
form a preform, and finally

v) drawing said preform into an optical fibre, wherein ~~the~~ a Reynolds number is in
accordance with the formula $120 < Re < 285$ during the deposition process according to step
iii), wherein the Reynolds number is calculated on the basis of the reactants supplied to the
substrate tube in step i) and step ii), ~~under the temperature and pressure conditions that~~
~~prevail~~ a temperature of 1000-1150 °C and a pressure of 4-35 mbar in the interior of the
substrate tube during step iii),

wherein a deposition rate of at least 2 g/min is used in step iii), and wherein the
stoichiometric excess of oxygen used during step ii) ranges from 1.8-5.0.

Application Serial No.: 10/725,426
Reply to Office Action dated March 16, 2006

2.-5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim ~~[[5]]~~ 1, wherein ~~the~~ a plasma zone is moved with respect to the substrate tube during step iii).

7.-18. (Canceled)